

b1  
each of the bearing surfaces having said hydrodynamic pressure generating grooves and ridges bordered by said hydrodynamic pressure generating grooves, and, an inner diameter of said bearing body at the endless circumferential groove being greater than inner diameters at the ridges of the bearing surfaces.

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b2  
6. (Twice Amended) A spindle motor for information equipment, comprising a rotating shaft rotating with rotating components of the information equipment, a bearing for supporting the rotating shaft, and a rotor and stator arranged so as to face each other via a prescribed gap, wherein:

said bearing comprises a porous bearing body of sintered metal having a bearing surface opposed to a sliding surface of the rotating shaft via a bearing clearance, and hydrodynamic pressure generating grooves slanting against an axial direction provided in the bearing surface, and lubricating oil or lubricating grease impregnated in pores inside the bearing body; and

said lubricating oil or a base oil of said lubricating grease is a lubricating oil selected from among mixtures of poly- $\alpha$ -olefin or hydrogenated compound thereof and ester wherein, a plurality of bearing surfaces are formed on an inner periphery of said bearing body and separated from one another by an endless circumferential groove, each of the bearing surfaces having said hydrodynamic pressure generating grooves and ridges bordered by said hydrodynamic pressure generating grooves, and, an inner diameter of said bearing body at the endless circumferential groove being greater than inner diameters at the ridges of the bearing surfaces.

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Please add claims 23 and 24 as follows:

~~23.~~ (New) A hydrodynamic type oil-impregnated sintered bearing,

comprising: a porous bearing body of sintered metal having a plurality of bearing surfaces opposed to a sliding surface of a rotating shaft to be supported via a bearing clearance, and hydrodynamic pressure generating grooves slanting against an axial direction; and lubricating oil or lubricating grease impregnated in pores inside the bearing body, wherein

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said lubricating oil or a base oil of said lubricating grease is a lubricating oil selected from among mixtures of poly- $\alpha$ -olefin or hydrogenated compound thereof and ester wherein, the plurality of bearing surfaces are formed at an inner periphery of said bearing body and are separated from one another by an endless circumferential groove at the inner periphery, each bearing surface having a central region and a pair of flanking regions with the central region disposed between the flanking regions, the central region defined by an endless ridge extending circumferentially about the inner periphery, each one of the pair of flanking regions including a series of ridge segments connected to the endless ridge with consecutive ones of the ridge segments separated from one another by a respective hydrodynamic pressure generating groove.

24. (New) A hydrodynamic type oil-impregnated sintered bearing,

comprising:

a porous bearing body of sintered metal having a plurality of bearing surfaces opposed to a sliding surface of a rotating shaft to be supported via a bearing clearance,